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DEC 1 7 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

Prayaga, et al.

SERIAL NUMBER:

09/672,665

EXAMINER:

A. M. S. Wehbé

FILING DATE:

September 28, 2000

ART UNIT:

1632

Attorney Docket No: 15966-572 (CURA-72)

FOR:

NOVEL POLYNUCLEOTIDES AND POLYPEPTIDES ENCODED

THEREBY

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time to respond to the July 17, 2002, Office action in the above-identified application. With the extension, the response is due on or before Tuesday, December 17, 2002. A check in the amount of \$195.00, in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(5), is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-572 (CURA-72). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529

Attorney for Applicants:

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Date: December 17, 2002

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